This species is easily distinguished from the other Bahamian taxa growing in limestone that share its reddish cast and papillose surface. All the varieties of *Chamaesyce lecheoides* (Millsp.) Millsp. have glabrous capsules, while the more northern *C. cayensis* (Millsp.) Millsp., which is pubescent, does not have the ciliate stipules of *C. proctorii.* The plant has a strong superficial resemblance to *C. helwigii* (Urb. & Ekm.) Burch, described from a single Haitian collection, but differs from this species in having smaller seeds, markedly ciliate stipules, denser short pubescence on the capsule, deep purple cyathial glands, and well-developed glandular appendages.

The epithet *proctorii* was chosen in recognition of the extensive contributions of Mr. George R. Proctor of the Institute of Jamaica to our knowledge of the flora of the whole Caribbean region.—*Derek Burch, Department of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida 33620.*

CHROMOSOME COUNTS IN *GRIELUM* AND *CERCIS*

Grielum sinuatum L. $2n = 14$. SOUTH AFRICA. CAPE PROVINCE: Seed ex Kirstenbosch Botanic Garden and cult. Missouri Botanical Garden *Curtis 100* (MO).

The genus *Grielum* traditionally has been placed in the family Rosaceae (Bentham & Hooker, 1865: 625–626; Bremekamp & Obermeyer, 1935: 415–416; Thorne, 1968). *Grielum* and the closely allied genera *Neurada* (*N. procumbens* : $2n = 14$, Hagerup, 1932; Murín & Chaudhri, 1970) and *Neuradopsis* (uncounted) are generally placed in the subfamily Neuradoideae. The diploid chromosome number obtained from root tip squash preparations of *G. sinuatum* has been determined as $2n = 14$, offering additional confirmation of placement in the Neuradoideae. A previous report of *N. procumbens* : $2n = 12$ (Murbeck, 1916) is most likely incorrect, based on the count reported here and those discussed above. Erdtman (1952) concluded, based on a study of pollen morphology, that a close and singular relationship exists between *Grielum* and *Neurada* as compared to other members of the Rosaceae. However, Erdtman retained both genera in the Rosaceae. The external morphology of *Grielum* and *Neurada* are very similar (Bremekamp & Obermeyer, 1935) and suggest a relationship with the Rosoideae, as does the base chromosome number of $x = 7$ for Rosoideae. Takhtajan (1969: 223) and Merxmüller (1968) have accorded Neuradoideae family status, after Agardh (1858: 228), with Takhtajan suggesting that the family Neuradaceae is related to the subfamily Rosoideae. While elevation of the Neuradoideae to family status might seem a logical conclusion based on pollen morphology, external morphology and chromosome numbers do not seem to justify this change in rank, nor does such a change offer more valuable insight into the evolution or systematics of the group.

Cercis canadensis L. $n = 7$ U.S.A. native species, cult. Missouri Botanical Garden *Curtis 101* (MO).

Previously, both $n = 6$ (Senn, 1938) and $n = 7$ (Taylor, 1967) had been reported. The present report for *C. canadensis* is in keeping with those for other species in the genus—*C. occidentalis* : $2n = 14$ and *C. grifithii* : $2n = 14$ (Taylor, 1967)—strongly suggesting that the $n = 6$ determination is incorrect.

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NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES IN *ALNUS* (BETULACEAE)

The following names are published in advance of a revision of the American taxa of *Alnus*. Detailed discussions of these changes will be included in the larger work.

Alnus acuminata H.B.K. is a variable species occurring throughout much of mountainous Mexico, Central America, and South America. It is seen as consisting of the following subspecies in addition to the nominate one.

Alnus acuminata subsp. **arguta** (Schlechtendal) Furlow, comb. et stat. nov.

Betula arguta Schlechtendal, Linnaea 7: 139. 1832; *Alnus arguta* (Schlechtendal) Spach, Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot., sér. 2, 15: 205. 1841. TYPE: "Prope San Miguel del Soldado, Naulingo, Acatlán, et Chiconquiaco," *Schiede 21* (HAL?, not seen; MO!, isotype or isosyntype).